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ECONOMIC DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE

Intelligence Request No. 7
Control No. 2159
1 June 1955

SUBJECT

Export of Ortho-Toluidine to Communist China

REQUESTING AGENCY AND DATE

Commerce/BFC; 16 May 1955

DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF INFORMATION

As soon as possible

PROPOSED USE

Information required by BFC and JOC in connection with possibly establishing a strategic rating for subject commodity.

BACKGROUND AND REFERENCES

Background - The BFC states that in the United States the subject commodity, which has no strategic rating, is used as a dye intermediate. However, it also can be used as an anti-knock additive in aviation gasoline. BFC desires to know if there is any indication that Communist China is using this chemical for an avgas additive.

BFC is informed by the trade that there appear to be periodic shipments of from 10,000 to 40,000 pounds of subject commodity from Western Europe through Hong Kong to Communist China, and the trade believes that over 1,250,000 lbs. of the commodity may have moved into Communist China in the past two years. The commodity is produced throughout Europe. The U.S. producers believe that European importers of ortho-toluidine from the U.S. are exporting European supplies to Communist China.

References - None provided by requester.

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SPECIFIC INFORMATION AND/OR ACTION DESIRED

It is requested that CIA and AFOIN undertake to answer this BFC request drawing upon the resources of other EDIC member agencies for information and competence, as necessary.

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Executive Secretary

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Cat. D - (All)

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